Math 590: Current Math Seminar
Fall 2020

Instructors: William Worden, Gokalp Alpan
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Office: Herman Brown Hall 420
Classroom, time: HBH 227, Th 2:30-3:30pm

Course Description: CMS is directly connected with the department colloquium, which takes place on Thursdays at 4PM. Graduate student speakers will be asked to prepare either a basic introduction to the topic that will be covered in the colloquium, or a talk on a topic of their choice. Each student, except for first year students, will give a 50 minute lecture on a topic in mathematics over the course of the year. First year students are not required but may present either a 25 minute or 50 minute presentation if they would like to.

Topics: The content of the lecture will be chosen by the grad student speaker. It may be related to the colloquium following the CMS meeting, or to a previous colloquium, but this is not required. If you choose to give a colloquium pre-talk, the instructors will recommend a source/text relevant to the topic, and faculty in the department that you can discuss it with. The speaker should make sure that the talk is understandable to an audience with a variety of mathematical backgrounds.

Expectations: It is expected that you attend every meeting and arrive on time. It is your responsibility to keep informed of any announcements, or policy changes made during scheduled classes.

Collegiality and Respect: The Department of Mathematics supports an inclusive learning environment where diversity and individual differences are understood, respected, and recognized as a source of strength. Racism, discrimination, harassment, and bullying will not be tolerated. We expect all participants in mathematics courses (students and faculty alike) to treat each other with courtesy and respect, and to adhere to the mathematics department standards of collegiality, respect, and sensitivity as well as the Rice Student Code of Conduct. If you think you have experienced or witnessed unprofessional or antagonistic behavior, then the matter should be brought to the attention of the instructor and/or department chair. The Ombudsperson is also available as an intermediate, informal option, and contacting them will not necessarily trigger a formal inquiry.

Title IX Responsible Employee Notification: Rice University cares about your wellbeing and safety. Rice encourages any student who has experienced an incident of harassment, pregnancy discrimination or gender discrimination or relationship, sexual, or other forms interpersonal violence to seek support through The SAFE Office. Students should be aware

when seeking support on campus that most employees, including myself, as the instructor/TA, are required by Title IX to disclose all incidents of non-consensual interpersonal behaviors to Title IX professionals on campus who can act to support that student and meet their needs. For more information, please visit safe.rice.edu or email titleixsupport@rice.edu.

Disability Support: Any student with a documented disability seeking academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with one of the instructors during the first two weeks of class. All such discussions will remain as confidential as possible. Students with disabilities will also need to contact Disability Support Services in the Allen Center.